

**AMENDMENT**

In the Claims:

Please cancel <sup>✓</sup>claims 15<sup>✓</sup> and 25-27<sup>✓</sup> without prejudice or disclaimer to Applicant's filing one or more continuation or divisional applications directed to the canceled subject matter.

Please amend claims 10<sup>✓</sup>, 12<sup>✓</sup>, 14, and 16-23<sup>✓</sup> so that after the amendments, the following claims are pending in this application:

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1. (Amended) An isolated antibody, or antigen binding fragment thereof, that specifically binds to a 499E9 polypeptide having the amino acid sequence as shown in SEQ ID NO: 2.
  2. (Amended) The antibody, or antigen binding fragment of claim 1, wherein the antibody is polyclonal.
  3. (Amended) The antibody, or antigen binding fragment of claim 1, wherein the antibody is monoclonal.
  6. (Amended) The antibody, or antigen binding fragment of claim 1, wherein the antibody is a 499E9 antagonist.
  7. (Amended) The antibody, or antigen binding fragment of claim 6, wherein the antigen binding fragment is a F(ab')<sub>2</sub>, Fab, or F<sub>v</sub> fragment.
  8. The antibody of claim 1, wherein the antibody binds to a 499E9 polypeptide with a K<sub>d</sub> of at least about 30μM.
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9. The antibody of claim 1, wherein the antibody binds to a 499E9 polypeptide with a  $K_d$  of at least about  $10\mu M$ .

D<sub>1</sub>  
~~10.8~~ (Twice amended) The antibody of claim 1, or antigen binding fragment thereof, that is raised against a polypeptide selected from the group consisting of:

- a) a substantially pure or recombinant 499E9 polypeptide exhibiting 100% sequence identity over a length of at least 12 contiguous amino acids to SEQ ID NO: 2;
- b) a natural sequence 499E9 of SEQ ID NO:2; and
- c) a fusion protein comprising 499E9 sequence.

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11. The antibody of claim 1, wherein the antibody binds to a 499E9 polypeptide with a  $K_d$  of at least about  $3\mu M$ .

D<sub>2</sub>  
~~12.10~~ (Amended) An isolated antibody, or antigen binding fragment thereof, that specifically binds to a polypeptide having the amino acid sequence as shown in SEQ ID NO: 2, wherein the antibody or antigen binding fragment is conjugated to a detectable label.

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13. The antibody, or antigen binding fragment of claim 12, wherein the detectable label is an enzyme, a fluorescent label, or radioisotope.

D<sub>3</sub>  
~~14.12~~ (Amended) An isolated antibody, or antigen binding fragment thereof, that binds to the polypeptide of SEQ ID NO:2.

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D<sub>4</sub> ~~16.13~~ (Amended) The antibody, or antigen binding fragment of claim ~~10~~<sup>8</sup>, wherein the antibody is polyclonal.

E 17.<sup>14</sup> (Amended) The antibody, or antigen binding fragment of claim 10<sup>8</sup>, wherein the antibody is monoclonal.

E 18.<sup>15</sup> (Amended) The antibody, or antigen binding fragment of claim 10<sup>8</sup>, wherein the antibody is a 499E9 antagonist.

E 19.<sup>16</sup> (Amended) The antibody, or antigen binding fragment of claim 10<sup>8</sup>, wherein the antigen binding fragment is a F(ab')<sub>2</sub>, Fab, or F<sub>v</sub> fragment.

E 20.<sup>17</sup> (Amended) The antibody, or antigen binding fragment of claim 10<sup>8</sup>, wherein the antibody or fragment binds to the polypeptide with a K<sub>d</sub> of at least about 30 μM.

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21.<sup>18</sup> (Amended) The antibody, or antigen binding fragment of claim 10<sup>8</sup>, wherein the antibody or fragment binds to the polypeptide with a K<sub>d</sub> of at least about 10 μM.

E 22.<sup>19</sup> (Amended) The antibody, or antigen binding fragment of claim 10<sup>8</sup>, wherein the antibody or fragment binds to the polypeptide with a K<sub>d</sub> of at least about 3 μM.

23.<sup>20</sup> (Amended) An isolated antibody, or antigen binding fragment thereof, that specifically binds to a 499E9 polypeptide having the amino acid sequence as shown in SEQ ID NO: 2, wherein the antibody is raised against a polypeptide selected from the group consisting of:

- a) a substantially pure or recombinant 499E9 polypeptide exhibiting 100% sequence identity over a length of at least 12 contiguous amino acids to SEQ ID NO: 2;
- b) a natural sequence 499E9 of SEQ ID NO:2; and
- c) a fusion protein comprising 499E9 sequence;

wherein the antibody or antigen binding fragment is conjugated to a detectable label.

Amendment and Reply to Office Action

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24. The antibody, or antigen binding fragment of claim 23, wherein the detectable label is an enzyme, a fluorescent label, or radioisotope.

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.121(c)(1)(ii), a marked-up copy of the amended claims is attached herewith on separate pages.

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